

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SEC, UR, US

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON SHOOTING INCIDENT AT SMUN

1. FOLLOWING IS CLEARED GUIDANCE PROVIDED TO DEPARTMENT'S
PRESS SPOKESMAN APRIL 2 WHICH EMBASSY MAY DRAON IN CON-
VERSATIONS WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS.

2. Q. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE REPORTED SHOOTING
LAST NIGHT AT THE SOVIET UNITED NATIONS MISSION?

A. AT APPROXIMATELY 3:50 A.M. THIS MORNING, TWO SHOTS
WERE FIRED AND ONE ENTERED A 9TH FLOOR WINDOW OF THE
SOVIET U.N. MISSION IN NEW YORK CITY. THE NINTH FLOOR
IS PART OF THE RESIDENTIAL AREA OF THE MISSION AND WE
UNDERSTAND THAT STAFF MEMBERS WERE SLEEPING IN THE ROOM,

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BUT FORTUNATELY NO ONE WAS INJURED.

LATER, AN ALLEGED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SO-CALLED JEWISH ARMED RESISTANCE CALLED UPI AND AP TO TAKE CREDIT FOR THE SHOOTING. THE NEW YORK POLICE AND THE FBI ARE INVESTIGATING THE INCIDENT AND BELIEVE THEY HAVE IN THEIR POSSESSION THE FIREARM USED IN THE SHOOTING, A .222 REMINGTON WITH A SCOPE AND HOME-MADE SILENCER. DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY EAGLEBURGER THIS MORNING CALLED SOVIET CHARGE D'AFFAIRES VORONTSOV IN BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY TO EXPRESS THE SECRETARY'S SHOCK AND DEEP REGRET OVER THE INCIDENT. MR. EAGLEBURGER EXPRESSED TO MR. VORONTSOV OUR RELIEF THAT NO ONE WAS INJURED AND OUR STRONG CONDEMNATION OF THIS IRRESPONSIBLE ACT OF VIOLENCE.

IN ADDITION, AMBASSADOR SCRANTON HAS EXPRESSED OUR REGRETS TO MR. KHARLAMOV, ACTING HEAD OF THE SOVIET U.N. MISSION.

LET ME EXPRESS AGAIN IN BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OUR TOTAL INDIGNATION AT THESE REPREHENSIBLE AND VIOLENT ACTS. THEY ARE PERPETRATED BY LAWLESS THUGS AND ZEALOTS WHOSE ACTIVITIES DO ENORMOUS HARM TO THE INTERESTS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THEIR GOVERNMENT.

3. Q. WHERE DID THE SHOTS COME FROM?

A. POLICE BELIEVE THAT THE SHOTS WERE FIRED FROM THE GROUND LEVEL AROUND 68TH STREET AND LEXINGTON AVENUE. THE MISSION IS AT L36 EAST 67TH STREET.

4. ISN'T THE SOVIET MISSION GUARDED? HOW COULD THIS HAVE HAPPENED?

A. A NYPD FIXED POST IS SITUATED IN FRONT OF THE MISSION. HOWEVER, THESE SHOTS WERE FIRED FROM SOME DISTANCE AWAY.

5. Q. WHAT IS BEING DONE TO STOP SUCH INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE?

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A. WE HAVE ENDEAVORED TO STRENGTHEN THE PROTECTION AFFORDED TO DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN NEW YORK AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO.

6. Q. HOW MANY SUCH SHOOTING INCIDENTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE PREVIOUSLY?

A. THIS IS THE FOURTH SUCH SHOOTING INCIDENT IN RECENT

YEARS; THE SECOND THIS YEAR.

7. Q. HAVE THERE BEEN ANY ARRESTS IN THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN
OF HARASSMENT AGAINST THE SOVIETS IN NEW YORK?

A. THERE HAVE BEEN NO ARRESTS FOR THE RECENT SHOOTING
AND BOMB INCIDENTS. THERE HAVE BEEN ARRESTS IN A SIDE-
WALK HARASSMENT CASE AND A SIT-IN AT TASS IN NEW YORK.
THOSE CASES ARE PENDING. KISSINGER

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